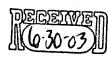


Official



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Dias et al. Art Unit: 2188 Serial No.: 09/551,745 Examiner: Namazi Filed: April 18, 2000 AM9-98-080C For: REAL-TIME SHARED SYSTEM FOR June 30, 2003 COMPUTER CLUSTERS 750 B STREET, Suite 3120 San Diego, CA 92101

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2003, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1 (amended) A computer system including plural client nodes communicating data access requests to one or more storage nodes, comprising:

logic means for associating one or more of the data access requests with respective priorities, wherein the priorities include time-based deadlines;

logic means for sending the data access requests and priorities to the storage nodes; and

1053-32C. AM1

Received from < 6193388078 > at 6/30/03 5:47:25 PM [Eastern Daylight Time]